

THE Romulus News

MARCH 23, 2001 – APRIL 5, 2001

"the little paper"

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 17

Timely Tidbits ...

Fleas for Sale?

Romulus High School's Class of 2002 invites the public to attend its first-ever indoor flea market, to be held in the school cafeteria on Saturday, April 28, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables (\$10 each) are still available for those who would like to prove the adage that one man's junk is another man's treasure. For more information, call Class Advisor Rosalie Berlinn at the High School (734-941-2170, ext. 162) or at home (941-4304).

"Who Done It?"

The City of Romulus and the Romulus Arts Council are cosponsoring a "Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre" at the DoubleTree Hotel in Romulus on Friday, April 27, beginning at 6 p.m.

Everyone will be involved in this interactive musical mystery, so if you plan to attend, be prepared to audition! Many prizes – including one for "best-dressed detective" – will be awarded.

Tickets (\$25 for general admission; \$15 for senior citizens and students) will be available on March 20. Price includes dinner and entertainment. Space is limited, so early purchase is advised. Call 734-942-7500 for information.

Hunter Safety Class

The Romulus Police Department and the Romulus Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) are once again cosponsoring a free class on hunter safety. The popular two-day program – set for Saturday, April 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, April 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. – will be held at the VFW Hall on Huron River Drive.

Teaching the course will be Lieutenant Daryl Poe and Officer Tom Ellis of the Romulus Police Department, along with a number of other qualified instructors.

Lunch (both days) will be provided by the VFW.

Applications are currently available at the Romulus Police Department (11165 Olive Street). Space is limited; early sign-up is strongly recommended. □

Incumbent Kenneth E. Berlinn Will Seek Reelection to Romulus Board of Education

Kenneth E. Berlinn, the current vice-president of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, has announced that he will be seeking a return to office in the next election, slated for June 11. The senior Board member, with over 19 years of service, says that he has established several goals for the next four-year term.

"Among my top priorities will be to help continue the Board's work to bring about higher MEAP [Michigan Educational Assessment Program] scores," said Berlinn. "I also want to see the completion of the various 1999 bond-issue projects, including the new Romulus Elementary School, the swimming pool at the High School, the science labs at the elementaries, and the district-wide technology upgrade," he added.

Berlinn says that he has always looked forward to serving the public and working with Romulus children. He enjoys seeing our students become successful, and celebrates many of the district's special occasions with students and staff. His child-oriented activities include membership in the Merriman PTA (of which he has been both president and vice-president) and service as

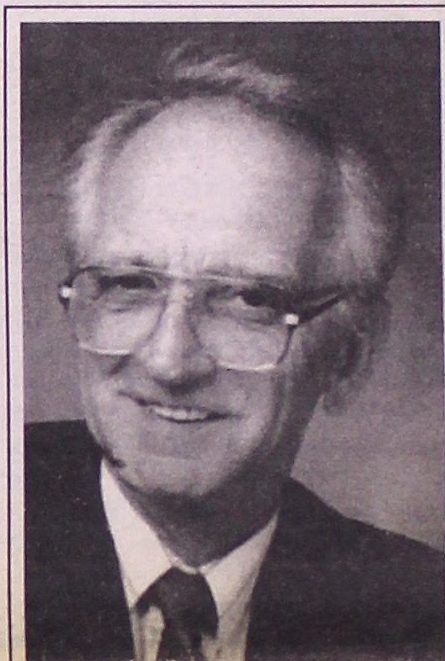
a scouting coordinator for the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts troops that meet at Merriman School.

Berlinn proudly points to the fact that he has missed only six Board of Education meetings in his 19+ years as a member. During that time, he has held the offices of president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary.

The Ford Motor Company retiree is also available to serve on boards that meet during the school day, and has given a good deal of time to the personnel, technology, and finance committees. He has further distinguished himself as the district's representative to the Wayne County Association of School Boards' Executive Committee and as a member of the Michigan Association of School Board Legislation Relations Network.

Still other subjects of pride are Berlinn's family members – Rosalie, his wife of 35 years, and daughters Denise, Marian, and Laurie, who attended Romulus schools from kindergarten through their graduation from high school.

Both Ken and Rosalie are members of the St. Stephen Catholic Church in New Boston.



Kenneth E. Berlinn

Berlinn's seat is one of two that are up for reelection; the other is currently held by Board Secretary Eva W. Webb. Residents who have already filed petitions to have their names placed on the June ballot include Cheryle Buckley and April Frayer. Deadline for filing: Monday, April 9, at 4 p.m. □

Inter-local Group Appeals EDS Permit in Court

By Kristi Stephens

Wayne County and the City of Taylor have joined the City of Romulus to appeal a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) decision that granted Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) a permit for the construction of a hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility on Citrin Drive in Romulus. DEQ Director Russell Harding recently approved the permit despite a Site Review Board (SRB) recommendation for denial.

"We are formally appealing their issuance of the permit," said Taylor Mayor Gregory E. Pitoniak, spokesperson for the inter-local group. "We think [the DEQ] had a flawed process and had no justification for overruling the Site Review Board."

But Steve Sliver, permit writer for the DEQ's Waste Management Division, told attendees at a recent public hearing that the DEQ set aside the SRB

recommendation because it did not provide a defensible basis for denial. He stated that the SRB's concerns have been addressed by integrating appropriate local requirements into the permit and establishing other special conditions that will mitigate potentially adverse effects.

Pitoniak and other anti-well activists are not satisfied with Sliver's explanation. They believe that, by issuing the permit, the DEQ violated the Michigan Administrative Procedures Act and Part 111 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act.

"Like virtually every state statute, Part 111 required that the state formally adopt rules to implement the statute," said Pitoniak, a former state representative for Romulus and Taylor. "This simply did not occur. The required rules would have forced the state to look at certain issues that the DEQ just failed to look at."

"We believe this makes that permit null and void," he added.

Despite Pitoniak's convictions, DEQ spokesperson Ken Silfven believes that the EDS permit will be upheld in the Circuit Court.

"We're extremely comfortable with the work that was put into our decision," said Silfven. "Our staff conducted a thorough and professional review of the permit application."

Legal fees for the inter-local group's permit appeal will be paid jointly by the City of Romulus, the City of Taylor, and Wayne County. In fact, the Romulus City Council has already approved the spending of up to one-third of \$25,000 for initial costs.

It is not yet known when the State Attorney General's office will file its response on behalf of the DEQ. Circuit Court Judge Kaye Tertzag, who will hear the appeal, has not yet scheduled a hearing date. □

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity.

Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Guest Readers Thanked

To the editor:

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Dr. Seuss birthday celebration at Cory Elementary School on March 2. Moreover, I would like to extend a very special thanks to the employees of Federal Express, who took time out of their day to come to our school and read the timeless works of Dr. Seuss to our students. With their help, we have ensured that these classics of children's literature, with all of their hilarity and insight, will be passed on to future generations.

It was a great day for all, with the readings in the morning and the film festival in the afternoon. The films which were shown were *The Lorax*, *Horton Hears A Who*, *Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are*, and *Scrambled Eggs Super*. To see these books brought to life on the big screen only added to the excitement which was our celebration.

It was my hope to pay homage to an author that was not only one of my favorites as a child, but a favorite of millions throughout the past three generations or so (for he was first published in 1937). Naturally, I think we should thank the late Theodor Geisel most of all for inventing the "Dr. Seuss" pseudonym and imparting some very important lessons to the world through his timeless and wonderful characters.

If there is any better way to convey serious social messages to kids in an entertaining way, then, in my opinion, nobody has yet found it.

Sincerely,
Lorne E. Cook III
Media Tech
Cory Elementary School

Ameritech Suit Opposed

To the editor:

A recent study – financed and publicized by Ameritech – alleges that Michigan consumers are paying \$1.03 billion "too much" each year for long-distance telephone service because regulatory obstacles prevent competition in the marketplace. On behalf of its 1.5 million Michigan members, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) wants to provide a context for these claims.

First, Ameritech has done everything possible, including filing a lawsuit, to prevent possible competitors from opposing its dominance of the local telephone marketplace. The rewrite of the Michigan Telecommunications Act signed into law last year would open the local market to competition. It also would end Ameritech's \$3.28-per-month end-user line charge arbitrarily imposed in this non-competitive local market.

AARP joins Governor John Engler and the Michigan Public Service Commission in opposing Ameritech's suit.

Second, Ameritech bases its claims concerning Michigan's long-distance market on an extrapolation of data obtained in analyzing the New York market. There are no data based on Michigan to support those claims.

Clearly, Ameritech wants to enter the long-distance market to establish itself as a local and long-distance telephone monopoly, all the while singing the praises of the free market.

continued on page 4



Cory's FedEx readers: (from left) front row – Lora Dixon, Elaine Takessian, Melissa Sanford, Debbie Skozylas, Noel Garza, Veronica Goldwater, and Victor Kossell; back row – Kris Sharrow, Monica Folsom, Paul Sombati, David Seaton, Liz Melton, Mike Noblett, Dan Threlkeld, and Jeff Feher.

The Romulus News

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Severe Weather Awareness Week (April 1-7) Promotes Safety

By Margaret Leduc, City of Romulus
Emergency Management Coordinator

Severe weather and flooding caused considerable property damage in Michigan in the year 2000. Although the number of tornadoes was well below the annual average, numerous windstorms, instances of large hail, and flood events made for an active severe-weather season last year. Unfortunately, injury and even death often accompany such storms. That's why Michigan residents need to be prepared for the dangers of thunderstorms, tornadoes, flooding, and other severe-weather events.

On May 9, 2000, a strong cold front moved across southeast Michigan. Thunderstorms that developed in the late afternoon and evening produced hail as large as oranges in Ypsilanti, and the Detroit Tigers baseball game at Comerica Park was interrupted by golf-ball-size hail. Wind damage was widespread, resulting in a trailer home being flipped in Blissfield and injuries to its two occupants. At Detroit Metropolitan Airport, a Mesaba Airlines hangar was destroyed, with a plane inside suffering damage.

Lightning was also deadly in Michigan in 2000. In southeast Michigan alone, 16 injuries and nearly \$2 million in damages were attributed to lightning last year.

Widespread, severe urban flooding that occurred in Wayne County on September 11, 2000, resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration. The heavy rain from thunderstorms caused thousands of residences and other structures to suffer flood damage. Around Detroit Metro Airport, numerous motorists had to be rescued from their stalled and stranded vehicles. Federal and state assistance to residents of the area has totaled over \$160 million for this event.

How Does Our City Prepare?

The City of Romulus has purchased three new sirens, bringing the total of outdoor sirens to eight. These sirens are outdoor warning systems. They are tested on the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m., and used whenever there are severe winds over 65 miles an hour or when a tornado has been spotted in the area.

Romulus will also conduct override messages on the cable television system in extreme emergencies. The emergency broadcast system will also provide emergency information in extreme weather conditions.

The citizens of Romulus are encouraged to purchase an NOAA weather radio for severe-weather warnings.

How Can Citizens Prepare?

The following are a few suggestions for citizens to follow before, during, and after storms.

Preparing Ahead

- Make an itemized list of personal property well in advance of severe weather. Photograph the interior and exterior of your home. Store the list, photos, and other important documents in a safe place.
- Memorize the safest and fastest route to high ground.
- Assemble a disaster supply kit containing: first-aid kit, canned food and a can opener, emergency cooking equipment, bottled water, extra clothing, rubber boots and gloves, NOAA weather radio, battery-operated radio, a flashlight and extra batteries, and a list of phone numbers of friends and relatives, particularly those people who live out of state.
- Identify a shelter in your home in case of a tornado. Ask where the shelters are at your place of work.
- Be familiar with the shut-off systems for gas and electric.

During Severe Weather

- Be aware of where family members are. If they are at work or school, they will follow their site's safety procedures. Do not go to the schools. If you have animals outside, bring them inside.
- When warned about approaching severe weather, move all small objects (bikes, garbage cans, etc.) indoors so that they do not become missiles.
- Monitor the skies and the weather reports. During lightning, do not go near windows.
- Since telephone lines and metal pipes can conduct electricity, unplug unnecessary appliances. Use telephones only in an emergency.
- Do not drive over flooded roads. The depth of water on the roads may be difficult to judge, causing your vehicle to be flooded.
- Keep children from playing in floodwaters or near culverts and storm drains, even after the storm.

After the Storm

- Determine the extent of any damage and document it for insurance purposes.
- Check for electrical problems or gas leaks. If there are any problems, call Detroit Edison at 800-477-4747 or MichCon at 313-965-0435.
- Do not touch any wires on the ground or fence, and keep children and animals away from the area.
- Use flashlights, not torches or lanterns, to examine buildings. Flammables may be inside.

Think Ahead!

Now is the time to plan *before* storms hit. Use these Severe Weather Awareness Week tips to ensure your family's safety. □

The Mayor's Chair

Home Values Up 11.7%, on Average

By Mayor William M. Oakley, City of Romulus

What difference does all the growth in Romulus mean to the average homeowner? According to the Wayne County Director of Equalization, it means that if your home was worth \$100,000 in 1999, it is now worth \$111,700 – an increase in value of \$11,700, or twice that offered by banks for certificates on deposit.

Of course, increased home values have a down side: increased tax. The year 2000 tax levy shows that the owner of that \$111,700 home will pay \$634 annually in city taxes and \$335 directly to the state for foundation grant funding – but it doesn't end there.

Local school districts also levy their own millage. If you live in that part of

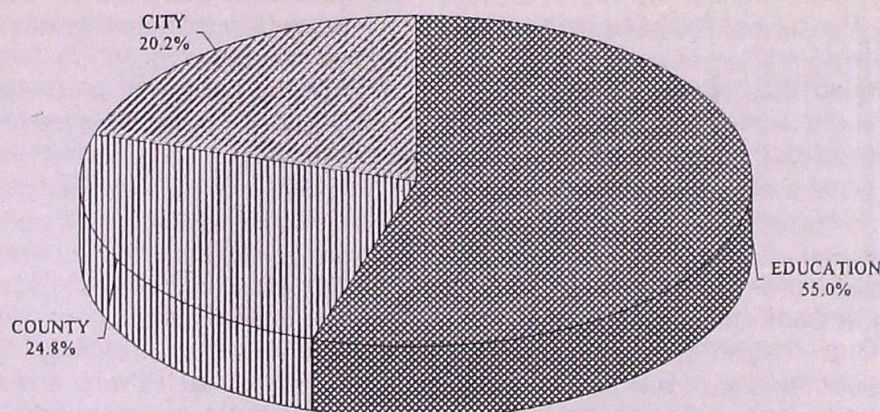
Romulus served by the Romulus Community Schools, you pay an additional \$1,116 per year in school taxes, while those in the Woodhaven district pay \$391 and those in the Wayne-Westland district pay \$287. The chart below shows the taxes that are paid by Romulus residents in each of the three districts.

Of course, the good news is that, although there has been an increase in home values, your taxes will not increase any more than the current rate of inflation because of the Headlee Amendment. This amendment says that it doesn't matter how much your home's value has increased; your taxes can only increase by an amount equal to the amount of inflation or five percent, whichever is lower. □

School Taxes Paid by Owner of a \$111,700 Home

Taxing Authority	Romulus	Woodhaven	Wayne-Westland
State Education	\$ 335 (6 mils)	\$ 335 (6 mils)	\$ 335 (6 mils)
Community College	56 (1 mil)	56 (1 mil)	56 (1 mil)
Special Education	111 (1.9 mils)	111 (1.9 mils)	111 (1.9 mils)
Board of Education	1116 (20 mils)	391 (7 mils)	287 (5 mils)
Total	\$1618	\$ 893	\$ 789

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Letters to the Editor

continued from page 2

When Ameritech drops its lawsuit against the local free-market revisions of the Michigan Telecommunications Act, we might be willing to listen to its claims about competition in the long-distance market.

Mary Aikey
State Legislative Committee
AARP Michigan

SRB Minority Speaks

Editor's note: The following letter was written to Russell Harding, Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, on April 14, 2000.

Dear Mr. Harding:

As you are aware, the Site Review Board (SRB) recently concluded a series of informal public meetings to hear comments and testimony on the Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) construction permit application for a waste treatment/deep well disposal system in Romulus, Michigan.

At the last meeting of the SRB on March 21, 2000, a motion to deny the permit was introduced and the votes taken. This motion failed on a 4 "yea" to 3 "nay" vote, with one abstention, and thus did not achieve the five votes required for passage. Those voting against denial, plus the abstaining voter, expressed concern over many of the nine items listed in the motion as reasons for denial.

Those seeking denial of the permit concentrated the discussion on the abstaining vote (and voter) on what changes needed to be made to the motion to switch this vote to deny the permit. Determining that the listed reasons were the only barrier, a second (revised) motion was proposed, supported, and voted upon. This time, the vote was 5 to 3 in favor of denying the permit. However, the correctness of the parliamentary procedure leading to the second motion and, thus, the meaning and intent of this vote, have been challenged.

The undersigned are not contesting that the final vote of the SRB did convey the intent to deny EDS the construction permit. However, we do have concerns over the reasons listed in the original defeated motion. We also have concerns over some of the parts of the SRB process. Several of our most serious concerns are expressed as follows:

1) The March 21, 2000 motion was, we were told, prepared by attorneys for the City of Romulus. The undersigned members, not openly opposing denial of a permit to EDS, were not provided copies of this draft motion until very near the March 21 meeting date when the motion was to be introduced. In fact, one of the undersigned did not receive a copy of the motion until a few minutes before the 3/21/00 meeting had opened. Thus, the uncommitted SRB members were at a great disadvantage in not

having adequate time to review the motion in its entirety and to formulate thoughts and responses to the included reasons.

2) We do not concur with many of the nine reasons listed in the 3/21/00 meeting motion, believing them to be flawed in ways we can best describe as ranging from "insignificant" to "untrue distortions of the facts." Moreover, although these concerns were presented in writing and as statements at the SRB meetings by the undersigned, they were given no consideration in the attorney-prepared motion. We believe this represents a serious flaw in this SRB process.

3) We were all concerned at the first public meeting of the SRB last October, when, during self-introductions of the individual Board members, several members openly stated that they would vote to deny the permit. This was done before any testimony or public comment had been offered. Moreover, we later learned that at least one other Board member held this view, although did not state it publicly for the record. It is our contention that it is improper for SRB members to have taken a polarized position prior to any testimony being given and it is certainly improper to express this position publicly, prior to or early in the proceedings.

4) The haste to close down further testimony and to bring a motion to deny the permit by some of the SRB members opposing the permit, plus to include only those reasons that supported their position for denial, has become a major concern. We believe this action has seriously compromised this SRB process.

We urge you to carefully consider our arguments as you review the record of the testimony prior to making your final decision on the EDS permit. We further request that consideration be given by the MDEQ to some of the more obvious problems with the SRB process we have identified in this letter, and that a review be done to help improve the process so that it is fair both to the public and to the applicant.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge the very high level of professionalism displayed by those in the Waste Management Division involved with the EDS permit, at all levels, under Jim Sygo's leadership. We very much appreciate their support and guidance through this sometimes trying, but always interesting process.

Sincerely,
Dr. Rane L. Curl
(SRB Chemical Engineer)
Dr. Allan M. Johnson
(SRB Geologist)
and
Mr. Brian L. Warner
(SRB Mfg. Representative)

continued on page 6

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Romulus Schools' Redistricting Committee Completes Work



Redistricting Committee members include (from left) Sandi Dotson (parent coordinator, Wick Elementary School), Lynne Mossoian (current principal of Halecreek Elementary, future principal of the new Romulus Elementary), Patty Stewart (Halecreek parent), Reverend Rita Talley (parent coordinator, Cory Elementary), William Routhier (Director of Business/Operations), Shirley Lamberson (Transportation Supervisor), Phyllis Adkins (Principal, Cory Elementary), Jeff Rahmberg (Plante and Moran representative), and Patricia Johnson (Cory parent). Not pictured: Ed Clark (Director of Human Resources), Debbie Juriga (Principal, Wick Elementary), and parents Bola Emmanuel (Cory), Robert Hicks (Cory), Lisa James (Wick), Vivian Thomas (Cory), and Trish Wands (Wick).

The Romulus Community Schools' Redistricting Team has completed its task of redrawing the boundaries for district students who live north of I-94, and the Board of Education has accepted and approved the team's plan, which sets new attendance boundaries for Cory, Wick, and the new Romulus Elementary School.

The boundaries have been set as follows:

Romulus Elementary School

- north border - Van Born;
- south border - I-94;
- east border - Inkster Road; and
- west border - Fourth Street (both sides).

Cory Elementary School

- north border - Van Born;
- south border - I-94;
- east border - west of Fourth Street; and
- west border - east of Wayne Road.

Wick Elementary School

- north border - Van Born;
- south border - I-94;
- east border - west side of Wayne Road; and
- west border - Hannan Road (except for Morgan Manor/Barrington students, who will continue to attend Barth Elementary, and Rudgate Estates students, who will continue to attend Wayne-Westland schools).

The committee had representation from all attendance areas affected by the new boundaries. Meetings were held at the district's administrative office as well as at Cory and Wick schools. Wick, Cory, and Halecreek schools included meeting dates in their monthly newsletters, as did three newspapers and the school system's cable channel.

Jeff Rahmberg of Plante & Moran (experts in the redistricting process) was the designated team leader. □

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- \$333 Winner = \$345 at Metro Liquor Market
- \$500 Winner = \$520 at Metro Liquor Market

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 4

Romak Recall Urged

To all concerned and civil, law-abiding citizens of Romulus:

Several weeks ago, while I was in a local store, I observed a headline which read "Romak Vows Civil Disobedience in EDS Fight" on the front page of *The Romulus News*. I'm a busy person these days, but I did find time to grab the paper on my way out the door, and I was appalled at what I read.

My question is this: How can any elected public official – having taken an oath to uphold the law – condone/incite civil disobedience? Ms. Romak's actions are very unprofessional, and therefore I believe that an election to recall Debbie Romak is in order, or she should be asked to immediately resign from her elected seat.

How Ms. Romak was elected to public office is beyond me. More than likely, the supporters of Ms. Romak have the same mentality and use the same unethical tactics that she does. To incite civil disobedience over an issue is uncalled for and should never be tolerated by concerned and law-abiding residents of Romulus.

If this community can recall, this behavior of inciting an uprising is not new with Ms. Romak and her rabble-rousing supporters, namely RECAP

(Romulus Environmentalists Care About People). Some may remember a letter I once submitted to this paper in regard to a poster which featured flames around a picture of my husband, former Councilman Jimmie C. Raspberry, along with words such as "burn this man," "death fees or legal fees?" and other Klan-ish rhetoric with other ethnically intimidating drawings. This poster – which I saw with my own eyes and reported to the proper authorities – was hung in a public party store in downtown Romulus.

Now, we come to this recent uproar over the same issue (which was the only issue Ms. Romak campaigned about when first running for election). My opinion is that if Ms. Romak and the group called RECAP want to continue their fight against the well project, they should hire their own attorneys. It is unfair to make the taxpayers of this city continue to pick up the tab.

Also, there are other instances of serious environmental problems in this city, but nothing is said about anything except the deep injection well. Why is that, I wonder? Could the rumors be true that Ms. Romak is getting paid to support "civil disobedience"? If so, who is behind it? Could it be other waste-management businesses within the City's boundaries whose profits will be drastically cut due to the environmentally safer well technology? If this is

true, then shame on Ms. Romak to stoop so low.

Ms. Romak always brings up her opinion that her children's future health can be affected by the deep injection well, yet she smokes cigarettes around her children. Doesn't Ms. Romak know that secondhand smoke is just as bad? I am not against anyone who decides to smoke; it's everyone's free choice to do as they please. I just want to expose the hypocrisy of Ms. Romak.

Also, I have been approached and informed that Ms. Romak and others questioned whether my husband really wrote the letters which he has submitted to local newspapers on this issue. This sounds like the same rhetoric that former mayor Beverly McAnally used. But I'm here to tell everyone the truth: No, my husband did not type any of the letters submitted to the papers. He dictated to me what he wanted to express, and I typed it. If I was unable to do so because of my busy schedule, then I had someone else help me out. I consider myself very well trained and intelligent enough to do things of this nature, and, really, the statement Ms. Romak made was an insult to my intelligence.

What this community does not seem to understand is that, although my husband is no longer in public office, he still keeps up with what's going on politically in this city, in our nation, and in the

world. No one should belittle his knowledge. Politics will always be in his blood.

As for the Sound-Off caller who talked of "poor Mr. Raspberry, old and jealous – I'll be praying for him" . . . What is it that my husband has to be jealous of? He chose to retire from public office; he was not run out! Mr. Jimmie C. Raspberry has left a blazing trail in this community for others to follow, and his integrity has earned him recognition as an honorable and reputable man of the people. Therefore, since the caller hasn't noticed my husband's qualities, I will be praying for him/her to open his/her eyes to the real world and stop being jealous of what my husband has accomplished in 37 years of service to this city.

In conclusion, I'd like all concerned citizens to keep these thoughts in mind: To express a radical verbal opinion is one thing, but to incite civil disobedience is wrong. It sets a bad example for children; it may cause people to get hurt; and it is against the law.

We need more intelligent people in elected office, not ignorant ones. This community should never resort to or tolerate civil disobedience from elected officials. Therefore, I again call upon all concerned and law-abiding citizens to recall Ms. Romak from the City Council or ask for her immediate resignation.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wandra V. Raspberry □

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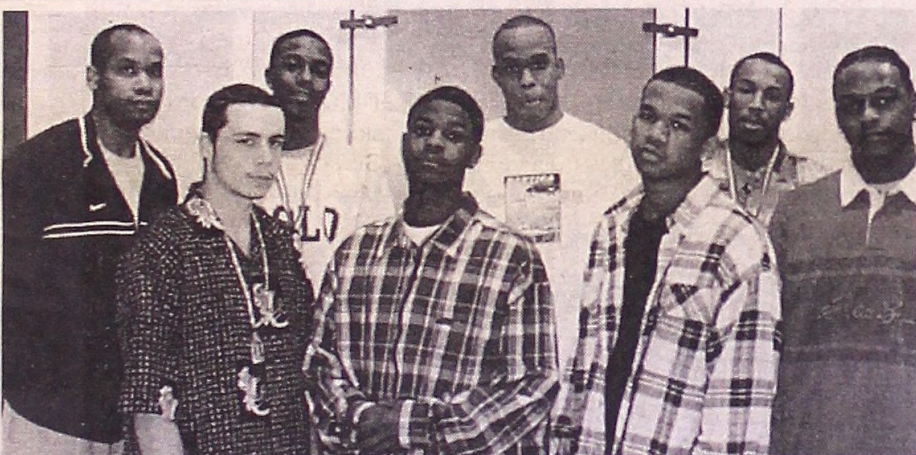
Around the District



Getting ready to enjoy the festivities at Wick's recent "multicultural feast" were (from left) front row – Billy McCraight (Board of Education Trustee) and Tavia Redmond (sixth-grade teacher); back row – Samantha Mack, Georgia Frye, and Jessica Dick (sixth graders).



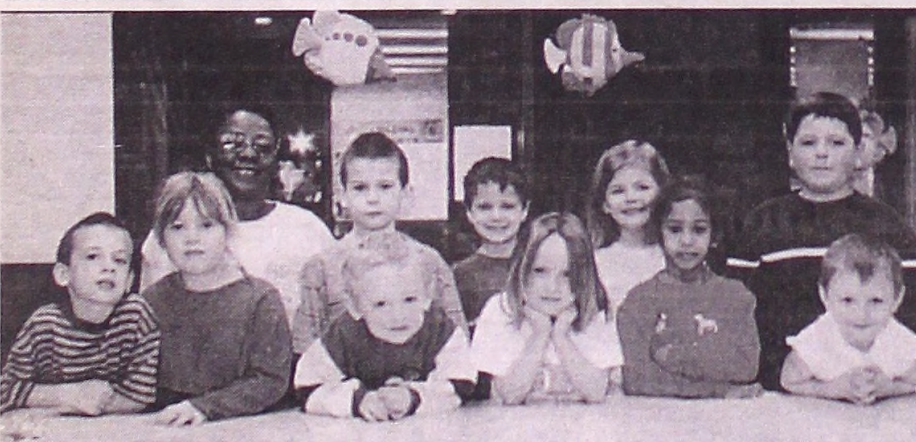
Taking Barth students on a "magic carpet ride" through the world of books were actors from Carpet One's Reading Adventures program, who performed fairy tales and fables and also read poetry. The program was arranged by Barth parent/Carpet One employee Tina Marie Dunn.



The Romulus Community High School basketball team, which was last year's State Class "A" Alternative School Champion, finished second in this year's playoffs. The Lions team includes: (from left) front row – James Lewicki, Abdul Wardlaw, and Fabian Douglas; back row – Mark Robinson (head coach), Robert Fuller, Jason Bailey, Calvin Mays, and Russell Dukes.



The new Romulus High School lacrosse team will play its first official game at the Middle School on March 30. The team: (from left) front row – Tom Banks, Angela Zajac, Diane Patterson, Ashley Fairbanks, and Jason Gardel (assistant coach); back row – Ricky Amolsch, Larry Brown, Geoff Raphael, Brandon Malot, Brian Longre, Jason Kahler (head coach), Kevin Jones, Dan Patterson, Jason Brooks, and Charles Smith.



Students in the classroom of Halecreek kindergarten teacher Phyllis Williams (back, left) are adopting the *Fish!* motivational philosophy that's been such a big hit with district employees. So far, she reports, the program seems to be a big success, as evidenced by a lot of happy little faces: (from left) front row – Blake Damron, Carly Paul, Robert Estes, Jessica Gladden, Rylie Miller, and Johnny Morrell; back row – Nathan Damron, Justin Demeo, Alicia Scott, and Brandon Kosikowski.



Students in the classroom of Halecreek sixth-grade teacher Howard Miller (far left) have also adopted the *Fish!* philosophy, which probably contributed to the fact that 15 of them earned all A's and B's on their last report card. They are: (from left) front row – Gary Puhl, Maureen McGlynn, Laren Nierman, Candice Bruckner, Sarah Berger, Lester Burton, Jesse Lambert, and Mara Thorn; back row – Olivia Berry, Hollie Tilley, Mathew Sims, Kevin Strobbe, Angelo Bailey, Justen Kiser, and Jessica Mills.

Guest Readers Help Halecreek Celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday



Celebrity readers included: (from left) front row – Betty Lenossi, Pam Mahonee, Barbara Jaszcz, Margaret Leduc, Lynn Rivers, Pam Morrison-Kersey, Joyce Clay, and Debbie Dick; back row – Dave Cox, Jim Rafalski, Joel Carr, Tom Ellis, Bill Wadsworth, Gary Harris, Ray Basham, Bill Oakley, Ken Berlinn, and Tom Dolan. (More photos on opposite page.)

Earlier this month, Romulus Police Officer Tom Ellis traded in his patrolman's cap for something a little taller and more colorful when he helped Halecreek Elementary School celebrate the birthday of the late, great "Dr. Seuss" (Theodor Geisel), author of such children's literature favorites as *The Cat in the Hat*. Ellis was one of several community leaders who took part in the festivities by reading aloud to the students.

"I really enjoyed myself," he said. "I want to thank everyone at Halecreek for inviting me, and I'd like to give special thanks to media tech Laurie Berlinn, who took photos of us and sent us copies so that we'd have mementos of our participation in the program."

Other participants in the Dr. Seuss birthday celebration included:

- Ray Basham, State Representative
- Ken Berlinn, Vice-president, Romulus Board of Education
- Joel Carr, Superintendent, Romulus Community Schools
- Joyce Clay, secretary to Chief Charles Kirby, Romulus Police Department
- Dave Cox, assistant to Mayor Bill Oakley, City of Romulus
- Debbie Dick, Trustee, Romulus Board of Education, and Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Romulus
- Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum, Romulus Community Schools
- Gary Harris, records clerk, Romulus Police Department
- Barbara Jaszcz, language-arts consultant, Romulus Community Schools
- Margaret Leduc, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Romulus

- Betty Lenossi, Trustee, Romulus Board of Education
- Pam Mahonee, Detective Bureau secretary, Romulus Police Department
- Pam Morrison-Kersey, Treasurer, City of Romulus
- Bill Oakley, Mayor, City of Romulus
- Lieutenant Jim Rafalski, Director, Community and Neighborhood Services Unit, Romulus Police Department
- Lynn Rivers, U.S. Congresswoman
- Bill Wadsworth, Councilman, City of Romulus. □

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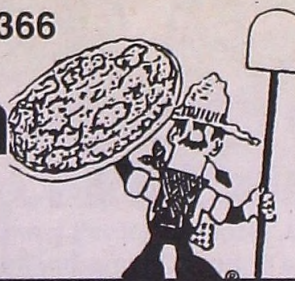
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Thursday – Cod Dinner:
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Friday – Wing Ding Dinner:
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Saturday – 1 Large Pizza with One
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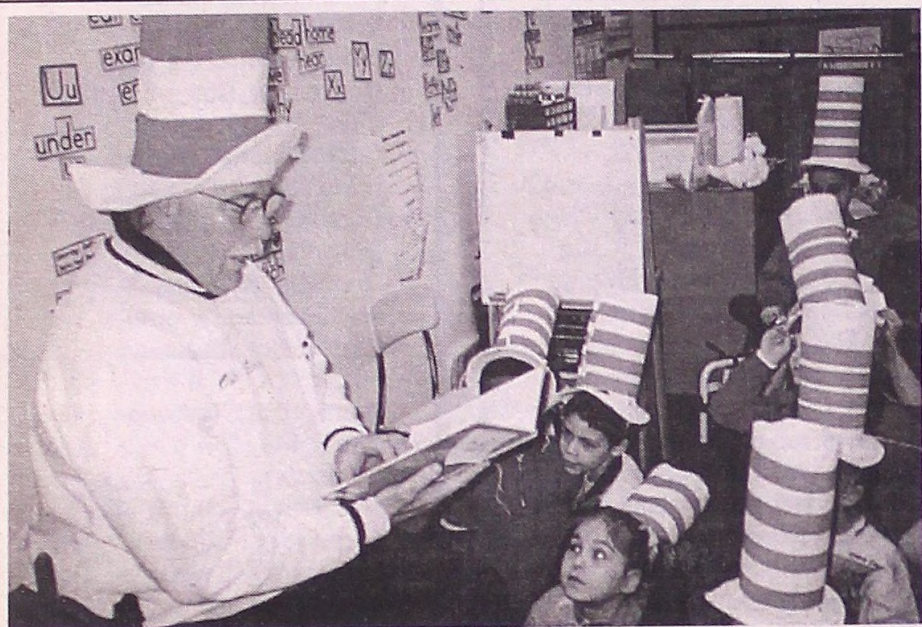
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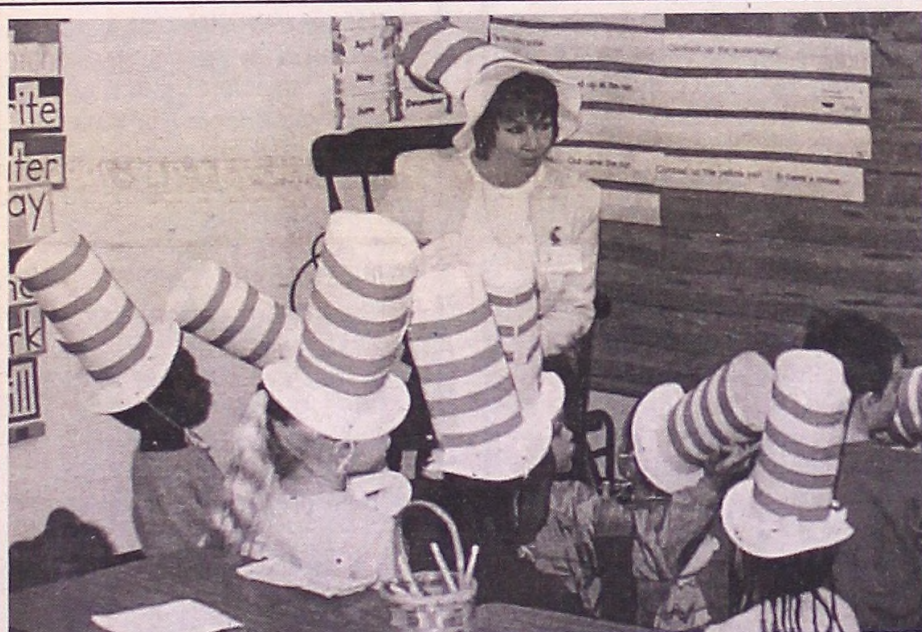
Celebrity Readers



Celebrity readers at Halecreek included Police Officer Tom Ellis ...



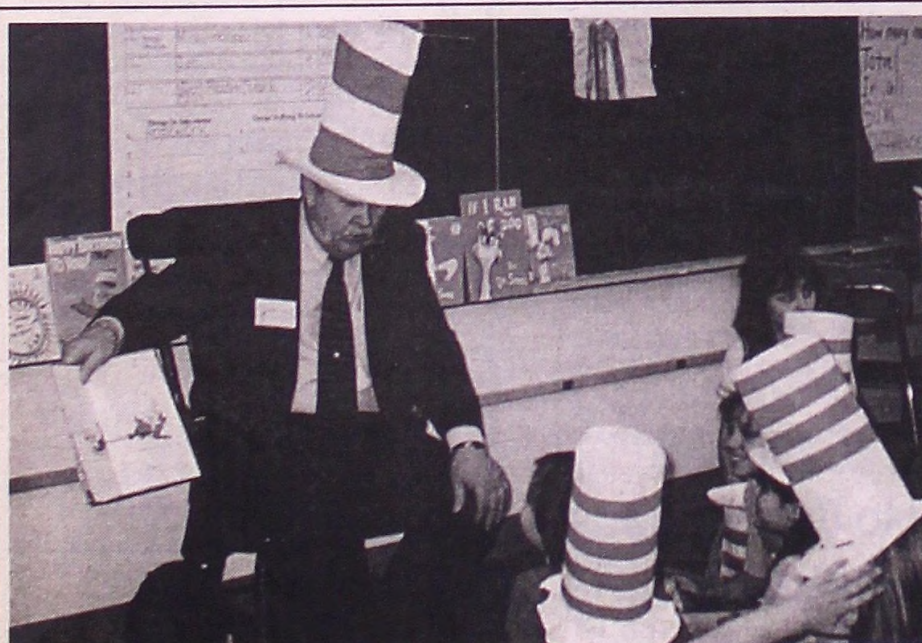
... Board of Education Trustee Betty Lenossi ...



... Joyce Clay, Secretary to Police Chief Charles Kirby ...



... Board of Education Trustee Debbie Dick ...



... Mayor William M. Oakley ...



... and Margaret Leduc, Romulus Emergency Management Coordinator.

RHS Baseball**VARSITY**

- Detroit CMA at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ypsilanti (Fri., Apr. 6, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Melvindale (DH) (Mon., Apr. 9, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Dearborn (DH) (Fri., Apr. 20, 11 a.m.)
- Lutheran Westland at Romulus (DH) (Sat., Apr. 21, 11 a.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Tue., Apr. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Sat., Apr. 28, 11 a.m.)
- Romulus at Woodhaven (Mon., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Wed., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Ann Arbor Huron at Romulus (Thur., May 3, 6:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Fri., May 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Southfield Lathrop Tournament (Sat., May 5, 10 a.m.)
- Fordson at Romulus (Mon., May 7, 4 p.m.)
- Garden City at Romulus (Tue., May 8, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster (Wed., May 9, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Fri., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Southwestern at Romulus (Wed., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Crestwood at Romulus (Fri., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Mon., May 21, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Tue., May 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Wed., May 23, 4 p.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RHS Baseball****JUNIOR VARSITY**

- Romulus at Annapolis (Wed., Apr. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Ypsilanti at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 6, 4 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (DH) (Mon., Apr. 9, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lutheran Westland (Wed., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Bedford (DH) (Sat., Apr. 21, 12 p.m.)
- Truman at Romulus (Tue., Apr. 24, 6:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Wed., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Lincoln at Romulus (Sat., Apr. 28, 11 a.m.)
- Woodhaven at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Crestwood at Romulus (Wed., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ann Arbor Huron (DH) (Thur., May 3, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Fri., May 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Mon., May 7, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Garden City (Tue., May 8, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Wed., May 9, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Fri., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Fri., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Trenton Tournament (Sat., May 19, 9 a.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Mon., May 21, 4 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus (Tue., May 22, 6:30 p.m.)
- Fordson at Romulus (Wed., May 23, 4 p.m.)

LET'S PLAY BALL!*Schedule subject to change***RHS Softball****VARSITY**

- Carlson at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wayne (Thur., Apr. 5, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster (Wed., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Truman at Romulus (Tue., Apr. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Wed., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Highland Park at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Sat., Apr. 28, 11 a.m.)
- Woodhaven at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Crestwood at Romulus (Wed., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Fri., May 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Annapolis (DH) (Sat., May 5, 11 a.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Mon., May 7, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Wed., May 9, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Fri., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Mon., May 14, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lutheran Westland (Sat., May 12, 11 a.m.)
- Bye (Wed., May 16)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Fri., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Mon., May 21, 4 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus (Tue., May 22, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson at Romulus (Wed., May 23, 4 p.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RHS Softball****JUNIOR VARSITY**

- Romulus at Carlson (Wed., Apr. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Wayne at Romulus (Thur., Apr. 5, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Tue., Apr. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Fri., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Lincoln at Romulus (Sat., Apr. 28, 11 a.m.)
- Romulus at Woodhaven (Mon., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Wed., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Fri., May 4, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson at Romulus (Mon., May 7, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster (Wed., May 9, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Fri., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Lutheran Westland at Romulus (Sat., May 12, 11 a.m.)
- Highland Park at Romulus (Mon., May 14, 4 p.m.)
- Bye (Wed., May 16)
- Crestwood at Romulus (Fri., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Mon., May 21, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Tue., May 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Wed., May 23, 4 p.m.)

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RHS Lacrosse**VARSITY/JV/FRESHMEN**

- Lincoln at Romulus (Fri., Mar. 30, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Flint Powers (Mon., Apr. 2, 7 p.m.)
- Rochester at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 6, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Romeo (Mon., Apr. 9, 7:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Rockford (Wed., Apr. 11, 6 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lanse Creuse (F) (Tue., Apr. 24, 5 p.m.)
- Romulus at Tecumseh (Wed., May 2, 6 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lanse Creuse (JV) (Thur., May 3, 5 p.m.)
- Romulus at Huron Valley (JV) (Mon., May 7, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Wed., May 9, 6 p.m.)
- Romulus at Avondale (Sat., May 12, 12 p.m.)
- Romulus at Rochester (Sat., May 12, 2:30 p.m.)
- Tecumseh at Romulus (Mon., May 14, 7 p.m.)
- Huron Valley at Romulus (JV) (Wed., May 16, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lanse Creuse North (JV) (Fri., May 18, 7 p.m.)

RHS Boys' Tennis**VARSITY**

- Romulus at Ypsilanti (Fri., Mar. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Jefferson at Romulus (Tue., Apr. 3, 4 p.m.)
- Redford Union at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wayne (Fri., Apr. 6, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln Park (Mon., Apr. 9, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Wed., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Jefferson (Tue., Apr. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Garden City at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 23, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Allen Park at Romulus (Thur., Apr. 26, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Fri., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Redford Union (Wed., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Lincoln Park at Romulus (Mon., May 7, 4 p.m.)
- Highland Park at Romulus (Wed., May 9, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster (Fri., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Mon., May 14, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Wed., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Division Tournament (Tue., May 22, TBA)
- Regionals (Fri.-Sat., May 18-19, TBA)

RHS Boys' Track**VARSITY**

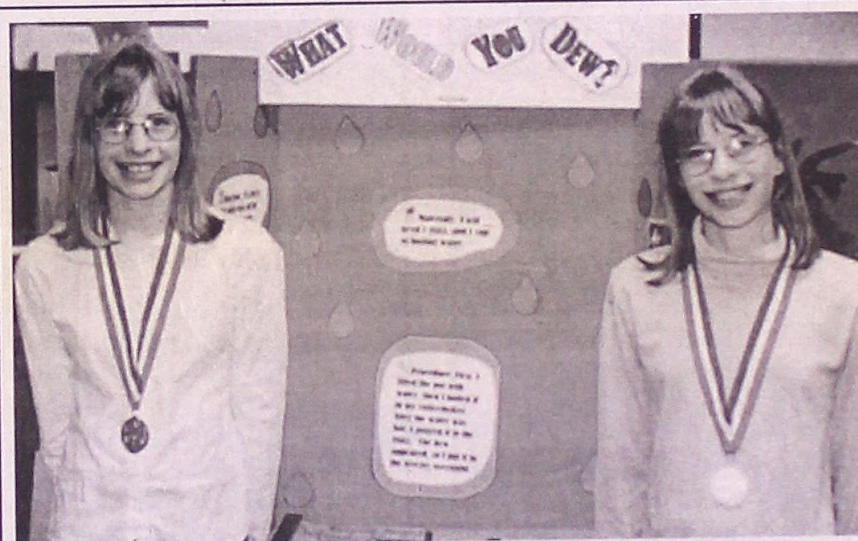
- Romulus at Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational (Sat., Mar. 24, 1 p.m.)
- Romulus at Huron River Relay (Sat., Mar. 31, TBA)
- Crestwood at Romulus (Tue., Apr. 10, 3:30 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Thur., Apr. 12, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Dearborn Elks Relay (Sat., Apr. 21, TBA)
- Ypsilanti/Ecorse at Romulus (Tue., Apr. 24, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Belleville (Thur., Apr. 26, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Sat., Apr. 28, 10 a.m.)
- Romulus at Edsel Ford (Tue., May 1, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Redford Union (Thur., May 3, 3:30 p.m.)
- Trenton at Romulus (Tue., May 8, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Thur., May 10, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at News-Herald Competition (Sat., May 12, 9 a.m.)
- Woodhaven at Romulus (Tue., May 15, 3:30 p.m.)

RHS Girls' Track**VARSITY**

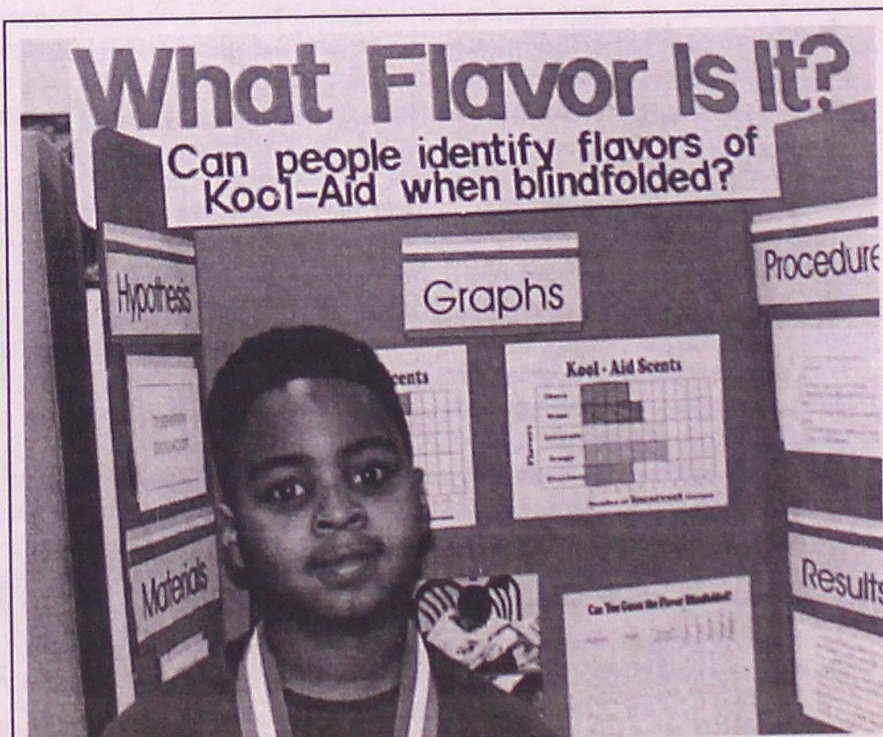
- Wayne at Romulus (Thur., Apr. 5, 3:30 p.m.)
- Robichaud at Romulus (Thur., Apr. 12, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Thurston (Thur., Apr. 26, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln Relays (Sat., Apr. 28, 10 a.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Tue., May 1, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Annapolis (Thur., May 3, 3:30 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Tue., May 8, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Garden City (Thur., May 10, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at News-Herald Competition (Sat., May 12, 9 a.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (Tue., May 15, 3:30 p.m.)
- Division Meet (Tue., May 22, TBA)

Wick Science Fair

Alan Lambert (left), Treasurer of the Romulus Board of Education, congratulates sixth-grader Shon Aggison, whose entry on "The Power of Fertilization" won a first-place award at Wick Elementary School's recent science fair.



Twins Jessica (left) and Jennifer Dick both won first-place awards in the sixth-grade division.



Cheldon Gober earned first-place honors in the third-grade division.

Community Calendar

- **Fund-raiser Benefits RHS Performing Arts** – A special fund-raiser for the choir, dance, and drama programs at Romulus High School and Middle School will continue for the next couple of weeks. Local residents are being contacted and asked to purchase items like delicious frozen pizza, gourmet coffee samplers, chunky chocolate-chip cookie dough, extra-life light bulbs, and durable trash bags. All products will be delivered to your door at no extra charge. For more information, contact RHS instructor Judith Thompson-Barthwell (734-941-2170, ext. 503).
- **Oriental Meditation/Qigong Workshop** – The public is invited to attend a free Oriental Meditation/Qigong Workshop, featuring Falun Dafa (ancient wisdom from China), at the Romulus Public Library on Saturday, March 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Tim Sun at 248-74FALUN; send e-mail to falun_mi@hotmail.com; or visit www.umich.edu/~falun (Michigan site) or www.falundafa.org (U.S. site).
- **Student Art Exhibited** – During the month of April, an exhibition of art produced by local students will be featured at the Romulus Public Library (11121 S. Wayne Rd., at Goddard, next to City Hall) during its normal business hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m.). There is no admission charge.
- **Nursery Hosts Open House** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery's annual open house will be held on Wednesday, April 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 5 to 7 p.m. The nursery school, open to children ages 30 months through five years, is located in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For information, call 734-941-3527, or visit www.huroncountrysideco-op.org.
- **Rummage Sale at St. Paul's** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (corner of Ellis and Craig streets in New Boston) will hold a rummage sale on Friday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, April 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- **Dinner/Discussion Puts Focus on Self-protection** – The 21st Century Learning Center's next "Health, Family, and You" dinner/discussion program – to be held at Wick Elementary on Wednesday, April 11 – will focus on self-protection tactics. Dinner (6–6:20 p.m.) will be followed by a guest speaker (6:20–6:50 p.m.) and Q & A (6:50–7 p.m.). Children will attend a related presentation especially for them. To register for this free program, call 734-722-1050, ext. 273.
- **The Mayor's Chair** – The next edition of the monthly *Mayor's Chair* program will air on cable channel 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 12. Anyone who would like to be present when the program is taped must be seated in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 S. Wayne Rd., at Goddard) by 6:15 p.m. Beginning at 6 p.m., home viewers can ask questions of the Mayor and his guests by calling 734-942-7571.
- **Historical Society Welcomes New Members** – The Romulus Historical Society meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting on April 18) at the Romulus Historical Museum (on Hunt St. next to the Post Office). New members are welcome.
- **In-Balance Center Hosts Annual Herb Conference** – The In-Balance Center's annual Herb Conference will be held at the Romulus Marriott (30559 Flynn Drive) on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guest speaker will be Dr. Jack Ritchason, who will discuss "Nature's Sunshine Products – Herbs and Your Health." Tickets are \$40 (nonrefundable). Deadline for registration is April 18. For information, call 734-941-8778.
- **City-wide Rummage Sale** – The annual Romulus City-wide Rummage Sale will be held Thursday, May 31, through Sunday, June 3. Participants must register for their no-fee permit at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins, downtown) by Wednesday, May 16, if they wish to be included in advertisements promoting the event. Call 734-942-6852.
- **RHS Class of 1981 To Host 20-year Reunion** – Romulus High School's Class of 1981 is in the process of planning its 20-year reunion. Any alumni interested in attending the event or becoming part of the planning committee are asked to contact Shona Silvey-Baum at 313-999-0016 or Lisa Riopelle at 313-492-7031.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 27, 2001

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Tuesday, February 27, 2001, was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by President Michael D. Woods.

Roll call showed member Eva Webb absent (excused). All administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Woods.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2/01/12 Moved by Lambert supported by Dick to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

2/01/13 Moved by Lambert supported by Dick that the Board approve the Minutes of February 12, 2001, as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Member Eva Webb arrived at 6:31 P.M.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval.

RESIGNATION: Michael Radford, Fifth-grade Teacher, Cory Elementary School, Effective February 20, 2001.

2/01/14 Moved by McCraight supported by Dick that the Board approve the resignation of Michael Radford as offered by Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT: Connie Dennis, Bus Aide, Transportation, Effective February 12, 2001, and Rebecca Green, Bus Driver, Transportation, Effective February 12, 2001.

Contract Ratification – Teachers

2/01/15 Moved by Lambert supported by Lenossi that the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the ratification of a contract extension with Wayne County MEA/NEA for the years 2002 through 2004. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

2/01/16 Moved by Lambert supported by Berlinn to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William A. Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

NCA Update – Debbie Juriga

Debbie Juriga, Principal, Wick Elementary School, gave a presentation updating the Board on the status of the North Central Association accreditation. She responded to questions posed by members of the Board.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Carol Weidenmann made a statement relative to a personnel situation.

Kim Wells made a statement on her feelings on seniority.

Nancy Daniels asked what the Board's position was on the well. Mr. Woods responded that the total Board was opposed to the well.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Technology Committee Minutes; 2) "Thank You" – Marlene Davis, RESA Superintendent; 3) Halecreek Newsletter; and 4) New Superintendent – Tom Watkins.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Lenossi commented on the effectiveness of the PA system in the auditorium.

Mr. Billy McCraight asked about providing cell phones for out-of-district transportation trips. He also commented on lacrosse taking off at the High School.

Mrs. Debbie Dick reminded people of the cable meeting on March 12, 2001, at 5 p.m., and questioned sponsoring an individual to "all star" activities.

Mr. Alan Lambert made a comment relative to a personnel situation.

ADJOURNMENT:

2/01/17 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva W. Webb, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

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Recreation News

Thanks to Debbie Dick, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Keith Brothers, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Scorekeepers Wanted

The Romulus Recreation Department is looking to hire adult softball scorekeepers for its upcoming summer softball season. League play starts at the end of April and finishes in mid August. Games are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Pay is \$7 per game; there are three to four games each day.

Anyone interested in this job should pick up an application at the Personnel Office in Romulus City Hall.

Summer Softball

The Romulus Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for the ISA Summer Softball program, with play in the following divisions:

- Mon./Wed. Men's White (eight teams/21 games/two umpires; six-home-runs-per-team limit; \$575 per team);
- Mon./Wed. Women's White (eight teams/14 games/one umpire; unlimited home runs; \$375 per team);
- Fri. Men's Red/Competitive (eight teams/14 games/two umpires; six-home-runs-per-team limit; \$475 per team);
- Fri. Men's Blue/Recreational (eight teams/14 games/two umpires; four-home-runs-per-team limit; \$475 per team); and

- Sun. Men's White/Doubleheaders (10 teams/18 games/two umpires; five-home-runs-per-team limit; \$500 per team).

The deadline for registration is Friday, April 6.

Girls' Fast-pitch LL

Local girls between the ages of nine and 12 are invited to sign up for the Romulus Little League's spring/summer fast-pitch program. Practices will begin in April; play will begin in May and continue through the end of June.

Registrations will be accepted at the Romulus Recreation office on Friday, March 23, from 5 to 9 p.m.

For more information, please call 734-955-6204.

Little League Sign-up

Romulus Little League will accept registrations for its baseball and softball programs (T-ball through Big League) at the Romulus Recreation Center on Friday, March 23, from 5 to 9 p.m..

Parent or guardian *must* bring the following items to register: proof of Romulus residence, *original* birth certificate (no copies accepted), and registration fee (\$35 per player/\$50 per family). An additional \$50 per player must be prepaid by those who do not wish to sell two boxes of candy.

For more information, please call 734-955-6204.

Golf Lessons

The Romulus Recreation Department is accepting registrations for youth and adult golf lessons. Registration fees cover instruction, golf balls, and clubs, if needed.

The four-week youth program, which begins April 28, features Saturday classes for the following ages:

- 8 to 17 (9 to 9:45 a.m.),
- 8 to 12 (1:15 to 2 p.m.), and
- 13 to 17 (2:15 to 3 p.m.).

(Ages 6-7 welcome if accompanied by an adult.)

Cost is \$52 per child.

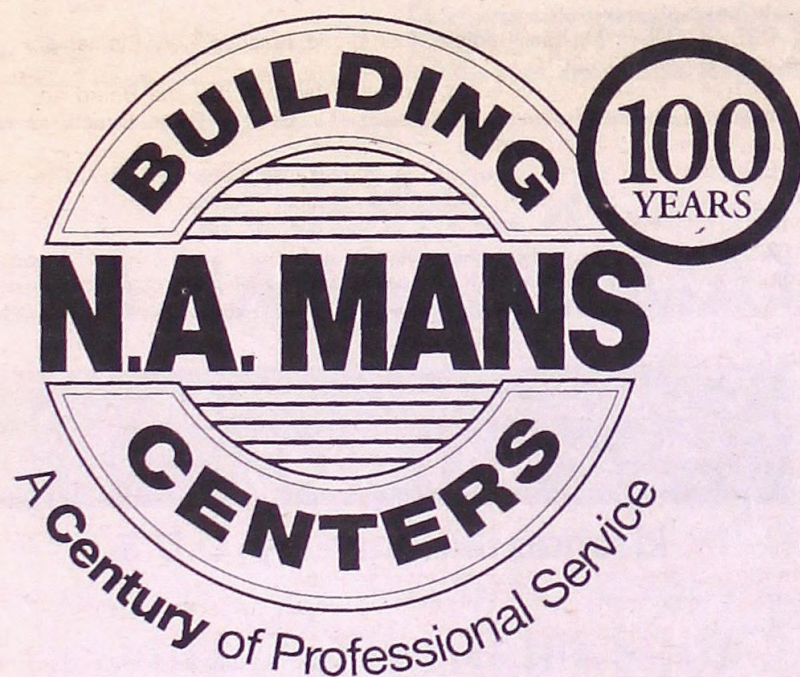
The five-week adult program, which begins April 24/25, features Tuesday or Wednesday classes from 6 to 6:45 p.m. or 7 to 7:45 p.m. Cost is \$62 per person.

Class size is limited; immediate sign-up is recommended.

Kickboxing

The next seven-week kickboxing program will begin April 3 and continue through May 17 (no class on April 17). The Tuesday/Thursday classes will be held at Romulus High School from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 for one day per week or \$50 for two. Preregistration is required. □

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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins downtown, call 734-942-6852.)

Free Tax Preparation

Now through mid April, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040 forms, as well as those for home-stead property taxes, home-heating credits, and prescription credits.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration.

Note: Romulus City Treasurer Pam Kersey also offers free tax-preparation services for seniors on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. To make an appointment, call 734-942-7580.

Euchre Begins Again!

The Center's weekly euchre game has resumed! Play is set for Mondays at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- **Casino Windsor**
(March 29; \$5)
- **Motor City Casino**
(April 11; \$4)
- **Sauder Farm & Village**
(May 25; \$59)
- **Washington D.C. & Gettysburg**
(June 17-23; \$699)

Why Casinos?

Linda Norman, Senior Citizen Program Coordinator, says that she's frequently asked why so many of the Center's "special trips" are casino-related. There's a very simple reason: lack of support for any other type. Apparently, trips to other venues rarely generate the required minimum of 30 participants.

Norman says that she and her staff are always open to suggestions concerning alternative destinations and ways to generate increased interest in them. If you have a question or comment, feel free to give her a call.

Attention, Bowlers!

Substitutes are needed for the Monday Morning Senior Bowling League (ages 52 and up). For more information, call 734-721-3708.

Crime Watch

The Romulus Police Department's Crime Prevention Officer, Damian Hull, will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program.

New faces are always welcome.

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens – has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18.

As always, both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-942-6852) are welcome.

Support Group Available

"We all experience loneliness, depression, and anger at various times," says the Senior Center's Linda Norman. "Often these feelings feed and grow when we are alone, but starve and weaken when we can draw strength from ourselves and others."

One great way to fight negative feelings is to join support groups such as the one that now meets at the Senior Center each Monday from 4 to 5 p.m. The group is open to all, and costs nothing to join.

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, April 16, beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable (\$5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: All haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointment, as the Center does not have the facilities.

Outside Chore Service

Area young people doing community-service work are available to perform outside chores for local senior citizens. To make arrangements to receive this service, call the Center.

TeleCare Program Available

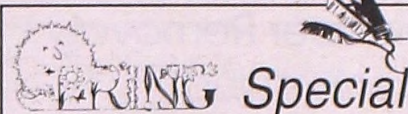
The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost. To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Hot Lunch

For just \$1.75, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation. □

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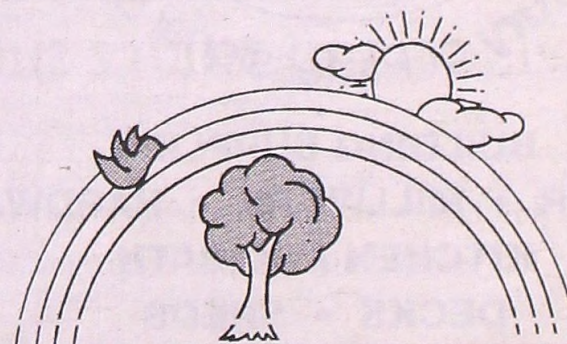
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Obituaries

Joseph C. Gyorkos, Jr.

Joseph C. Gyorkos, Jr., of Romulus, Michigan, died on Monday, March 5, 2001, at the age of 86.

The Indiana native – born Friday, August 27, 1915 – retired from the Detroit Newspaper Agency in 1981. He was a member of the American Motorcycle Association.

Joseph is survived by a son, Charles Gyorkos (Brighton, MI); two daughters, Marilyn Ann Gyorkos (Romulus) and Carolyn Ann (John) Gretka (Farwell,

MI); eight grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. Among those who predeceased him were his wife, Marcella Mary; one brother, John; and two sisters, Mary and Helen.

A funeral service was held on Friday, March 9, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu (St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Romulus) officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Joseph J. Scibilia

Joseph J. Scibilia of Romulus, Michigan, died on Tuesday, March 13, 2001. He was 79 years old.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Friday, June 10, 1921.

Among those surviving Joseph are his wife, Giovanna "Joan" Scibilia; three sons, Gaspere (Catherine) Scibilia (Romulus), Litterio (Dale) Scibilia (Waterford, MI), and Gene (Debbie) Scibilia (White Lake, MI); one brother, Angelo Scibilia (Capac, MI); two sisters, Benedette Polizzi (Mesa, AZ) and Francis

Silvio (Shelby Township, MI); nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by one brother, Frank Scibilia.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, March 17, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating.

Interment was at Christian Memorial Cultural Center (Rochester Hills, MI).

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Mildred J. Warwick

Mildred J. Warwick of Romulus, Michigan, died on Wednesday, March 7, 2001, at the age of 75.

Among those surviving Mildred are her husband, Virgil A. Warwick; two daughters, Ms. Sandra Basham (Sarasota, FL) and Mrs. Fred (Deborah) Wilson (Mt. Dora, FL); three stepchildren, Dale Warwick (Rock, MI), Mrs. Keith (Luanne) Lohfink (Northland, MI), and Kathy Gustafson (Rock); four siblings, Charles Bishop (Jupiter, FL), Richard

Bishop (Traverse City, MI); Mrs. Dale (Martha) Reitz (Belleville, MI); and Mrs. Patricia Woods (Romulus); and three grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on Monday, March 12, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Trieber Acre (Church of Christ, New Boston, MI) officiating. Interment was at Tyler Cemetery (Van Buren Township, MI).

Memorial tributes may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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The Stork Arrived

James Michael McCurdy

James J. McCurdy and Crystal L. Collins of Indianapolis, Indiana (formerly of Romulus, MI), are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Michael McCurdy.

Weighing in at six pounds, seven ounces, and measuring 20 inches in length, James was born in Riverside Osteopathic Hospital (Trenton, MI) on Wednesday, January 31, 2001.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were paternal grandparents James B. McCurdy and Debbie Woodward (South Lyon, MI; formerly of Romulus); maternal grandparents Mike Collins (Dearborn, MI) and Lyn Kerezsi (Trenton); paternal great-grandmother Dolores A. Witzgall (Romulus); maternal great-grandparents William E. and Dorothy Collins (Brownstown Township, MI) and Dale Neuman



James Michael McCurdy

(Traverse City, MI) and Norman Neuman (Onsted, MI); and paternal great-great-grandmother Helen V. Stuckey (Sterling Heights, MI). □

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Obituary

Gail (Milligan) Housby

Gail (Milligan) Housby, 30, of Rock Island, Illinois, died Wednesday, March 14, 2001. Services were held Saturday, March 17, at 1 p.m.

Gail was born January 16, 1971, in Ypsilanti, Michigan, the daughter of Robert and Velma (Dudley) Milligan. She married Dennis J. Housby February 26, 1996, in Rock Island.

She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Moline and attended Gilda's Club of Davenport. She enjoyed life and was a wonderful mother.

Survivors include her husband Dennis and sons Nicholas, David, Timothy, Joshua, and Dennis Jr. (and his wife Heather and son Shawn) – all of Rock Island – as well as her mother, Velma Dudley; her father, Robert Milligan; her stepmother, Dr.



Gail (Milligan) Housby

Diane Milligan; two sisters, Christine and Diana Milligan; three brothers, Joseph Dudley (and his wife Ronnaca), Robert Scott, and Russell Milligan; and nephews Aaron and Joshua Dudley – all of Michigan. □

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